

KY-202

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No. 6741

R. INAGAKI

Serial No. 10/849,056

Filed: May 20, 2004

For: MUTE CIRCUIT AND BTL AUDIO
AMPLIFIER APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2615

Examiner: D.J. Suthers

Customer No. 24956

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents

Mail Stop Amendment

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a

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marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form(s) PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed for each foreign patent, for each publication or portion thereof that caused it to be listed, and for each pending unpublished U.S. application or portion thereof that caused it to be listed. No copy of a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication is needed unless required by the PTO. A copy of a document is also not needed when previously submitted or previously cited by the PTO in a prior application to which the present application claims a benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

4. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

5. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for JP 11-112239; JP 6-11090; JP 2-86305; JP 5-175738; JP 1-212906; and JP 2003-60442, because each is either in the English language, discussed in the present Specification, or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

6. For the following references, concise explanations of the relevance are provided since each is not in the English language, and not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

JP 1-67818

In Figs. 1 and 2 of JP 1-67818, the audio amplifier that is shown is not a BTL circuit. In Fig. 1, the audio amplifier has relay switches 52, 56 inserted between collectors of the transistors 16, 18 and power source terminals +VB, -VB, and mute switches 44, 40 are inserted between an operation amplifier and power source terminals +VB, -VB, respectively.

JP 60-9312

In Figs. 1 and 2 of JP 60-9312, the audio amplifier that is shown is not a BTL circuit. In Figs. 6 and 7, the audio amplifier disclosed is a BTL circuit, which has a transient response tone stopping circuit 20(20'), capacitor Cp and comparator 24(24'), shown in Figs. 2 and 7. However, there is no switch circuit for a muting operation. The transient response tone stopping circuit 20 has no mute switch.

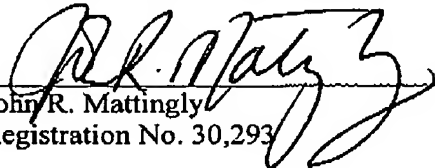
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7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.


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Date: May 9, 2008